

Message Text

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72

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 SP-03 AID-20 EB-11 NSC-07 RSC-01

CIEP-02 TRSE-00 SS-20 STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02 CIAE-00

COME-00 FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 LAB-06

SIL-01 PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15 L-03 H-03 DRC-01 /186 W

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R 060849Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3717

INFO AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMCONSUL CURACAO

AMCONSUL PARAMARIBO

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EIND, NS, NL

SUBJECT: MINISTER PRONK ON NATIONALIZATION OF SURINAM
INDUSTRIES

1. LEFT-LEANING DUTCH DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION MINISTER JAN PRONK SAID DURING INTERVIEW ON DUTCH RADIO JUNE 1 THAT WHILE HE DOES NOT REGARD NATIONALIZATION OF PRIVATE INVESTMENTS IN SURINAM AS ANSWER TO THAT EMERGING COUNTRY'S PROBLEMS HE WOULD NOT OPPOSE NATIONALIZATION OF BAUXITE INDUSTRY, FOR EXAMPLE, IF GOS SHOULD DECIDE ON THAT COURSE. HE ADDED THAT GON WOULD NOT COLD SHOULDER OR TAKE COUNTER-MEASURES AGAINST GOS IN THAT EVENT BUT COUNSELED GREAT CARE BY GOS TO AVOID "CHILE EFFECT", I.E., RETALIATION BY CAPITAL EXPORT-ING COUNTRIES. PRONK CONCLUDED BY MAKING IT CLEAR THAT HE PERSONALLY FAVORED ACQUISITION BY GOS OF ENOUGH SHARES OF KEY FOREIGN OWNED ENTERPRISES, USING GON AID FUNDS IF NECESSARY, TO PERMIT GOS TO EXERCISE SOME INFLUENCE OVER

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CORPORATE DECISIONS AFFECTING SURINAM ECONOMY AND PEOPLE.

2. PRONK WILL VISIT PARAMARBO JUNE 16-23 TO DISCUSS NATURE (BUT NOT AMOUNT) OF DUTCH AID TO SURINAM IN POST-INDEPENDENCE PERIOD. IN LUNCHEON CONVERSATION WITH ECON/COMMERCIAL COUNSELOR JUNE 5, PRONK SAID HE HAD ASKED GOS TO SCHEDULE BRIEFINGS BY PRIVATE COMPANIES AND THAT HE WOULD REINFORCE THIS BY SPECIFICALLY ASKING FOR SURALCO BRIEFING. CONGEN PARAMARIBO MAY WISH TO ENSURE THAT SURALCO BRIEFING IS INCLUDED IN PRONK ITINERAY AND EMPHASIZE COMPANY'S CONTRIBUTION TO SURINAM'S SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND ITS FUTURE PLANS IN THAT REGARD. WHILE PRONK IS OPENLY SUSPICIOUS OF MNC OPERATIONS AND OBJECTIVES IN LDC'S WE HAVE FOUND HIM A GOOD LISTENER AND FLEXIBLE ENOUGH TO SEE MERIT IN PRIVATE ENTERPRISE IF IT ADHERES TO WHAT HE REGARDS AS ENLIGHTENED CODE OF BEHAVIOR.

3. IN LUNCHEON CONVERSATION PRONK ALSO EMPHASIZED THAT IN HIS REFERENCE TO POSSIBLE NATIONALIZATION OF SURINAM INDUSTRIES HE WAS NOT TALKING ABOUT SURALCO "WHICH IS TOO BIG NOT JCY GOS TO SWALLOW" BUT TO BILLITON, BRUYNZIIL AND POSSIBLY OTHERS. HE AGREED THAT THERE ARE OTHER AND BETTER WAYS OF USING DUTCH AID THAN BY ACQUIRING INTEREST IN FOREIGN ENTERPRISES WHICH ARE ALREADY GOOD CORPORATE CITIZENS OF SURINAM. HE CONFIRMED GON INTENTION TO PROVIDE CONTINUED AID TO SURINAM AND HOPED OTHERS, INCLUDING USG, WOULD JOIN IN. HE ADDED THAT HE WOULD USE HIS INFLUENCE TO GET GOS TO COOPERATE MORE CLOSELY WITH CARIBBEAN NEIGHBORS (RATHER THAN BRAZIL) AND TO SEEK ACCOMMODATION WITH GUYANA. HE SAID GON WOULD BE WILLING TO GIVE AID TO GUYANA IF THAT WOULD HELP, EVEN THOUGH NEITHER GUYANA NOR SURINAM QUALIFY FOR DUTCH AID BY HIS STANDARD CRITERIA OF "MOST NEEDY" AND MOST "SOCIALLY CONSCIOUS".
GOULD

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